July 20, 2009 Morning Highlights 2009-35 Time: 12:00 pm Contact:

Public Affairs (907) 356-5511 Report Fires: (800) 237-3633

## Wildland Fire Update

Three new fires and three false alarms were reported to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center Sunday. A structure fire in the Delta Area threatened to escape into the wildlands but was suppressed by a local Volunteer Fire Department and Ft. Greely Fire Department at the request of DOF. A two acre lightning caused fire burning in tundra was reported in the Fairbanks Area but was declared a natural out. The Chugach National Forest reported a human caused fire but no additional information was available.

As of 9 am Friday, the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center had tallied 427 fires and 1,114,323.3 acres burned this year. At this time last year, 321 fires had burned 77,136.1 acres. 71 fires are active across Alaska. 10 fires are staffed.

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Railbelt Complex			Alaska Type 2 Incident
			Mgt. Team
			Boise Hotshots
			Bonneville Hotshots
			Fairbanks #1 Type 2 crew
			Fairbanks #4 Type 2 crew
			Idaho City Hotshots
			Pilot Station
			Sawtooth Hotshots
			Upper Tanana #1Type 2
			crew
Fires in Complex			283 personnel in Complex
Minto Floto Couth	12 mi west of Nonena	101 152 0000	
Minto Flats South	12 mi west of Nenana	191,152 acres	
Lunch Lake	20 mi. NW of Nenana	8,294 acres	
June Creek	21 miles NW of Healy	164 acres	

Fire Name	Approx. Location	Acres Burned	Fire Personnel
Rock Slough	50 mi. NE of Ft. Yukon	18,793.4 acres	130 personnel
			Beaver/Stevens Village
			Type 2 crew
			Ft. Yukon #2 Type 2 crew
			Gannet Glacier 2IA crew
			Midnight Sun Hotshots
			Minto #1 Type 2 crew
			Venetie #1 Type 2 crew
Little Black One	18 mi. NE of Circle	138,602 acres	49 personnel
			Fort Yukon #3 Type 2 crew
			Venetie #2 Type 2 crew
Discovery Creek	42 mi. NW of Circle	3 acres	2 personnel (demob
			scheduled for 7/20)
Eagle Creek 2	29 mi. E of Bettles	2,100 acres	2 personnel
Willow Mountain	10 mi. S of Copper	9 acres	22 personnel
	Center		
			Chena Hotshots
Chakina	13 mi. S of McCarthy	30,000 acres	65 personnel
Wood River 1	34 mi. SW of Fairbanks	3, 600 acres	9 personnel
		10.001	
Shanta Creek	Off Funny River Road	13,221 acres	193 personnel ordered
	Kenai		NIMO Type 1
			Alaska Interagency #3 T2
			Denali Type 2IA
Upper Healy River	15 mi. NE of Healy Lake	61 acres	45 personnel
			Chevak #2 Type 2 crew
			Midewin Hotshots

For updated information about the Railbelt Complex fires which includes the Minto Flats South Fire, Lunch Lake Fire and the June Creek Fire, call the Fire Information Office in Nenana at 907-832-1836. Additional information about the fire is being posted at: <a href="https://www.inciweb.org">www.inciweb.org</a>.

For updated information about the Shanta Creek fire, call the Kenai Wildlife Refuge at 907-260-2338 or 2342. Additional information is posted at <a href="https://www.inciweb.org">www.inciweb.org</a> and <a href="http://kenai.fws.gov">http://kenai.fws.gov</a>

For updated information about the Chakina Fire, call the Fire Information Office at 907-529-0511 or send email to: ChakinaFireInfo@gmail.com. Additional information is also posted at www.nps.gov/wrst/parkmgmt/firemanagement.htm

News releases and additional information about these fires are posted under Current News at http://fire.ak.blm.gov

A Fire Weather Watch is in effect from Tuesday afternoon through Tuesday evening for a portion of the central Interior and north slopes of the Alaska Range. Southerly winds are expected to increase to 20 mph with gusts to 25 mph. Relative humidities may drop to 30% during this time.

A Fire Weather Watch is in effect from Tuesday afternoon through Tuesday evening for a portion of the western interior. Strong southeast winds are expected to develop and relative humidites are expected to drop to 30% or below in the afternoon.

Information about weather can be found at: http://afshome/predsvcs/weather.php

Air Quality information for the Fairbanks North Star Borough is posted at: <a href="http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/">http://co.fairbanks.ak.us/airquality/</a>. For July 20 at 11 am, the air quality was reported as moderate.

To learn about protecting yourself from smoke, visit:

http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm

For daily fire information, please visit:

http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf and for a map of fire locations, click on "Fire Information" at http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php

## **Additional References**

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/
  - Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
  - Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
  - o National Fire Situation: <a href="http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf">http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf</a>
- Alaska Wildland Fire Coordinating Group- Education and Reference Materials: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/administration/awfcg.php
- Creating Defensible Space: <a href="http://firewise.org/">http://firewise.org/</a> and <a href="http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf">http://forestry.alaska.gov/pdfs/06Firewise.pdf</a>

- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, <a href="http://511.alaska.gov/">http://511.alaska.gov/</a>
  Alaska Division of Forestry (Burn Permit Info): <a href="http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/">http://forestry.alaska.gov/burn/</a>
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): <a href="http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm">http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm</a>
- National Parks Service: <a href="http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm">http://www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm</a>
- National Weather Service: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: <a href="http://www.fws.gov/fire/">http://www.fws.gov/fire/</a>
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Anchorage Fire Department: <u>www.muni.org/fire</u>
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: <a href="http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/">http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/</a>
- Federal Aviation Administration: http://www.faa.gov/

AICC Morning Highlights is compiled by Maggie Rogers (Alaska Division of Forestry) and Doug Stockdale (BLM Alaska Fire Service).

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